

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KUWAIT 03853 231951Z

62

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 AF-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00

INRE-00 USSS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

INT-08 SCEM-02 SY-10 DRC-01 /241 W

----- 057202

R 231435Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7968

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMENDASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

ANWMBASSY TEHRAN 1838

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 3853

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB,HONRG, U

SUBJECT: OIL WORKERS STAGE THREE DAY STRIKE

REF: KUWAIT 3739

SUMMARY: KUWAITI OIL WORKERS STAGING THREE DAY STRIKE  
AS WARNING TO US. UNION STATEMENT ALSO CALLED FOR  
NATIONALIZATION US INTERESTS, AND SAID OTHER STRIKES  
MAY FOLLOW. EMBASSY BELIEVES UNIONS MIGHT BE USING  
CURRENT SITUATION FOR POWER PLAY AGAINST GOK. END  
SUMMARY

1. IN SEPARATE STATEMENTS ISSUED SUNDAY EVENING,  
OCT. 21, AND REPORTED BOTH ARABIC AND ENGLISH MONDAY  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KUWAIT 03853 231951Z

PRESS, GENERAL CONFEDERATION KUWAITI WORKERS (GFKW)

AND PETROLEUM AND PETROCHEMICAL WORKERS UNION CALLED FOR THREE DAY GENERAL STRIKE AT KUWAIT OIL COMPANY AND AMINOIL BEGINNING MORNING TUESDAY, OCT 23 AND ENDING MORNING FRIDAY, OCT 26. ACCORDING COMPANY OFFICERS STRIKE IS EFFECTIVE AND BOTH KOC AND AMINOIL SHUT DOWN.

2. GFKW STATEMENT SAYS STRIKE'S PURPOSE TO SERVE AS WARNING TO UNITED STATES AND ALL WHO SUPPORT ZIONIST AGGRESSION. STATEMENT ALSO DEMANDS CONFISCATION ASSETS AMINOIL AND NATIONALIZATION AT LEAST 51 PERCENT GULF'S TPK PERCENT SHARE KOC, AND IT URGES GOK, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, POPULAR ORGANIZATIONS, AS WELL AS ALL ARAB

WORKERS, ESPECIALLY IN THE GULF AND ARABIAN PENINSULA, HIT AMERICAN INTERESTS. STATEMENT SAYS THIS STRIKE WILL BE LIMITED, BUT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY OTHER STRIKES UNTIL "OUR PEOPLE" ACHIEVE CONTROL OVER THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENEMY IS DEFEATED.

3. COMMENT: THERE PROBABLY MUCH MORE TO THIS STRIKE THAN MEETS THE EYE. ALTHOUGH IT UNDOUBTEDLY TRUE THAT ISRAEL AND THE US STAND AT THE TOP OF THE UNIONS' HYPE LIST, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THE GFKW USING CURRENT SITUATION AS A VEHICLE FOR POWER PLAY AGAINST GOK. GOK HAS BANNED ALL STRIKES NOT HAVING PRIOR GOK APPROVAL, AND THERE NO INDICATION THIS ONE WAS CLEARED. INDEED, FACT THAT STRIKE WAS NOT RPT NOT MENTIONED IN ANY ARABIC PAPER THIS MORNING (TUESDAY) INDICATES THAT GOVERNMENT DISPLEASED ENOUGH TO LEAN ON RELATIVELY INDEPENDENT PRESS. GOK DID NOT, HOWEVER, APPARENTLY FEEL STRONG ENOUGH TO MOVE TO PREVENT STRIKE. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MET TODAY, TUESDAY, AND WE UNDERSTAND STRIKE ONE OF SUBJECTS DISCUSSED. HOWEVER, GOK SPOKESMAN MADE NO MENTION OF STRIKE FOLLOWING MEETING WHEN HE BRIEFED PRESS ON OTHER MATTERS DISCUSSED (SEE REFTEL). LAST SENTENCE PARA TWO ABOVE STRIKES US AS BEING AS MUCH A DIRECT THREAT TO GOK AS TO US AND OIL COMPANIES, AND IT WILL BE INTERESTING SEE HOW COUNCIL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KUWAIT 03853 231951Z

OF MINISTERS REACTS. WE DO NOT RPT NOT THINK COUNCIL WILL JUDGE THIS A PROPITIOUS TIME FOR A SHOWDOWN.

4. BOTH KOC AND AMINOIL REPORT STOCKS HIGH, WITH TANKERS WAITING LOAD AT CONCLUSION STRIKE, SO DOUBTFUL STRIKE WILL HAVE ANY IMPACT SUPPLY SITUATION.  
STOLTZFUS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HONRG, U  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973KUWAIT03853  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** KUWAIT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731016/aaaaalph.tel  
**Line Count:** 115  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 KUWAIT 3739  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 JUL 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26-Jul-2001 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <17-Jan-2002 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** OIL WORKERS STAGE THREE DAY STRIKE  
**TAGS:** ELAB  
**To:** SECSTATE WASHDC BEIRUT DHAHRAN AMENDASSY JIDDA LONDON ANWMBASSY TEHRAN  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005